Louisiana Recovery Office New Orleans, LA



FEMA: Week in Review

February 19-25, 2011

Announcements

DHAP Extension Granted for Gustav/Ike Survivors Through September

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Federal Emergency Management Agency have granted an additional six-month extension of the Disaster Housing Assistance Program-Ike and Gustav (DHAP-Ike and Gustav), giving 1,743 families in Louisiana displaced by the two hurricanes through September 30, 2011, to transition to more permanent housing.

The DHAP-lke and Gustav program has provided temporary rental assistance to families since November 2008, and was scheduled to end on March 31, 2011. HUD and FEMA established the program through an Inter-Agency Agreement to assist homeowners and renters who were displaced by the hurricanes with up to 17 months of temporary housing assistance and case management. The new extension will allow for a total of 35 months of potential program eligibility.

This program provided full rental payments to participating families for the first six months. After May 2009, families whose housing expenses — rent and mortgage for personal residences that remained uninhabitable — exceeded 30 percent of their income, and who also met other program requirements, continued receiving DHAP-lke and Gustav assistance. DHAP-lke and Gustav subsidize eligible families' rent anywhere in the United States.

FEMA, GOHSEP Open New Disaster Recovery Facility in Baton Rouge

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's Louisiana Recovery Office and the Louisiana Governor's Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness on February 23 officially opened a new joint Disaster Recovery Facility in Baton Rouge. Louisiana congressional, state and local officials attended the event and toured the new facility.

In remarks to fellow recovery partners, FEMA Region VI Administrator Tony Russell said, "This office will foster a working environment that best enables us and our state partners to continue working side-by-side with the shared goal of Louisiana's full recovery in mind."

GOHSEP Director Mark Cooper added that he appreciated FEMA's "willingness to fully support the recovery of our coastal communities."

In addition to its main purpose to house state and federal recovery workers, the new facility will also serve as FEMA's main disaster response center for future storms that may threaten Louisiana.



Calendar

Feb. 26-28: National Governors Association Winter Meeting, Washington, D.C.

March 3: DFIRMS for Vernon Parish go into effect.

March 17: DFIRMS for Allen Parish go into effect.

March 20-25: National Emergency Management Association, Mid-year Meeting, Alexandria, Va.

Fire Grants for Louisiana

The Assistance to
Firefighters Grants
program administered by
FEMA recently awarded \$2
million to 18 fire and
volunteer fire departments
in Louisiana for equipment,
emergency vehicles or
training.

The 18 recipients are:

-Baker Fire Department
-Bogalusa Fire Department

-Choctaw VFD

-City of Baton Rouge FD

-Des Allemands VFD

-City of Monroe FD

-Natchitoches FD

-Paradise VFD

-Paula-Grand Point FD

-Pointe Coupee Fire District #4

-Rosehill VFD

-Springhill Fire District #11

-St. Bernard Parish FD

-St. Rose VFD

-St. Tammany Parish Fire Protection District #3

-Urania VFD

-West Monroe FD

-Youngsville VFD

Housing Update:

Katrina/Rita: 463 occupied units

Gustav/Ike: 137 occupied units





